Agriculture, Malabar, visited Chalisseri, a village on the borders of the Talappalli Taluk and also Kunnamkulam. They saw me at Trichur and congratulated me on the splendid arrangements made within the State for combating the *Mahali* disease of arecanut trees.

One of the Hon'ble Members was making rather sweeping remarks about the Farm, and saying that the Farm was selling *vendai* and brinjals. The English word for *vendai* is "Lady's finger". Both are food crops. I have not, so far as my knowledge of Natural Science goes, come across with any hint anywhere of any attempt to revise the classification of the vegetable kingdom and to treat any particular group of plants as "depressed classes." Ten years ago, i. e., before the Farm was opened, the type of *vendai* fruit usually eaten by the people was the one which had a number of spines. As many as 170 packets of seeds were sold from the Farm, besides the issue of samples in small lots to the ryots as well as to schools in several parts of the State. The Farm has also sold, till now, nearly 18,000 seedlings of brinjals.

Avenues.—During the last ten years, nearly 40,000 avenue trees were planted, including over a thousand cocoanut plants. The total expenditure incurred is Rs. 67,376-6-7. Out of the 40,000 planted, 30,000 may be considered to have established themselves. Thus the average cost per plant is just over Rs. 2. This is cheap enough, and I think the work cannot be done cheaper.

The income from avenue trees rose from Rs. 1,397—3—7 to Rs. 3,537—13—7 in 1099. This is steadily going up.

In conclusion, I would earnestly request the members of this House to carefully consider our present economic condition. You will find that no progress can be achieved in any department of human activities without utilising up-to-date scientific knowledge. When, after a few years, we get a number of the new type of men possessing knowledge in Agriculture and allied industries, the prejudice towards the Agricultural Department will vanish, and better co-operation from the educated class wil be possible. Till then, the officers of the Agricultural Department here, as well as

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elsewhere, will be subjected to the treatment now accorded.

I would request you, therefore, to ponder over the subject and kindly reconsider the whole matter.

Mr. T. A. **RAMACHANDRA AYYAR** (*Nellayi*).

Will the Hon'ble Member inform the House whether such a huge Farm is necessary to make the people understand the new methods with regard to agriculture?

President.—Is it your point that the Farm need not be as extensive as it is, or that further extension is not necessary? Of course, you will admit, some portion of the Farm is necessary for educational purposes. Is it your point that we do not want to do so much in the Farm?

Mr. T. A. **RAMACHANDRA AYYAR** (*Nellayi*).

We do not want such a large Farm.

President.—What is the necessity of a big Farm like this? The question is whether we could not rest satisfied with a farm on a limited scale.

Mr. I. **RAMAN MENON** (*Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats*).

I have already told this House that we are doing work in four important directions, that is to say, agricultural, experimental and demonstration work, stock-breeding, horticulture and the Agriculturai School. Well, if we have four different stations in four different places, proper supervision cannot be exercised. As a matter of fact, for doing stock-breeding and dairying work, we want a particularly large area. For experimental purposes we do not want such a large area. The present Farm is not devoted to experimental work alone. We have also to maintain a number of animals for the purpose of arranging for stud bulls for use in the country. When Mr. Bhore was the Diwan, it was settled after making proper enquiries that we might concentrate our attention in a particular place so that work might be done properly and efficiently. I too suggested this to him, and it was finally settled that we might work properly and systematically in a particular place, instead of wasting our energy in too many centres. A further reduction is impossible in

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the interests of the Farm as well as in the interests of the several ryots which we have to safeguard.

Mr. M. K. RAMAN (*Ezhuva South*).

Does the Hon'ble Member think that a shifting farm will be more successful than a big one in a particular locality, so that instruction may be carried to the people?

President.—So, you want farms in all places?

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON (*Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats*).

Well, that is quite a different type of work. That is giving information to the ryots in the several places by actual demonstrations on their own lands. That is quite different from carrying on experimental work. For the purpose of stock-breeding, agricultural education and so forth, we want a big area. We tried the manure demonstration work in several taluks, about six years ago. We had Taluk Farms, and they were abandoned. Demonstration work on private lands, during the last three or four years, could not be carried on on any large scale on account of depression caused by floods, draught and so forth. We also persuaded the ryots to co-operate with us.

President.—It will be successful.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR (*Nellayi*).

Has any European authority visited the cocoanut plantations and given a certificate?

President.—I do not think anybody has visited.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR (*Nellayi*).

So far as I know, nobody has visited.

Mr. M. K. RAMAN (*Ezhuva South*).

Was any certificate published in the Gazette for the information of the public?

President.—Nothing has been published in the Gazette.

Mr. CHAKKO CHERUVATHUR (*Vadakkancheri*).

How many kinds of insect-pests are there existing in the paddy farms of the Talappalli Taluk?

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON (*Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats*).

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Probably, 100 insect-pests.

Mr. CHAKKO CHERUVATHUR (*Vadakkanchery*).

How many kinds of insect-pests have been bottled and exhibited in this way?

Mr. I. RAMAN MENON (*Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats*)

We are keeping specimens of insect-pests.

President.—The Police Department has not come in for any criticism at all.

Mr. K. S. RAMA AYYAR (*Trippunittura*).

May I ask whether, for the members of the Reserve Force, there is any necessity for a special allowance called Reserved Allowance ?

Mr. A. K. VENGU AYYAR (*Secretary to the Diwan*).

They are given special allowances, varying from Rs. 3 to Rs. 8, as a matter of encouragement.

Mr. K. S. RAMA AYYAR (*Trippunittura*).

The force was reorganised two years ago.

Mr. A. K. VENGU AYYAR (*Secretary to the Diwan*).

This is a special allowance.

President.—Distinct from the usual allowance allotted to these Reserve men.

Mr. A. K. VENGU AYYAR (*Secretary to the Diwan*).

With regard to a query of Mr. Rama Ayyar as to an item on p. 20 of the Preliminary Budget, may I point out that the C. M. and S. O. has his tentative programme. The amount will be utilised only after it is finally scrutinised by the Government.

As to the allotment for the Cheranellur Panchayat, the provision represents a contribution from Government for the elevation of the depressed classes. The Chalakkudi Pulaya Colony alone has been handed over to the Depressed Classes Development Society. The provision covers other institutions also of a similar kind.

Next, as to the query with regard to the Potteries. The "Potteries" and the "Stone-ware Factory" are identical institutions.

President.—We call the Stone-ware Factory "Potteries" also.

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Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

I would rise to point out that the Mechanical Engineer has several motors which may not come under any section of the Regulation or Rules. I would like to know the reasons for that, so that I may not raise any discussion hereafter.

President.—Please refer us to the budget. Under what figures do you want information?

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

No. 27. Public Works Department. Page 61. All motor cars, motor boats, all of them, are put in italics. Items in italics are non-votable. Under what sub-section has these been put in italics?

President.—Page 61, Preliminary Budget, P. W. D.—Detailed Account— No. 27, sub-head Motor cars. Have you got it?

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI (*Comptroller of Accounts and Finance Member*).

Yes, Sir; they are in italics.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

That shows they are non-votable.

President.—Well, please inform Mr. Salem, how they have been put under non-votable items.

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI (*Comptroller of Accounts and Finance Member*).

Because they are for Palace use.

Mr. C ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

That is not what Mr. Salem means. Others may have motor cars, &c.

President.—They should be shown separately.

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON (*Chief Engineer*).

They do not come under the Mechanical section. All the motor cars there are used by Palaces only.

President.—You follow Travancore in this matter, I believe?

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

Is there any conveyance other than for Palaces?

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON (*Chief Engineer*).

All the cars attached to the Palace are for Palace use and the Diwan's personal use.

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Mr. C. A. OUSEPH (*Chalakkudi*).

May I know to whom the money set apart for Town Improvement schemes to Mattancheri, Ernakulam Trichur and Chittur is handed over?

President.—To Municipal Councils. I do not know whether a separate department like that is necessary. It will have to be considered.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

I cannot understand the Finance Member correctly as to why the expenditure on the Harbour Works cannot be debited under capital expenditure in the accounts hereafter. That would obviate the necessity for the consideration of a deficit budget.

President.—I think that is a point fit to be considered. Now, I call upon the Finance Member to reply.

Mr. K. KRISHNA PISHARODI (*Comptroller of Accounts and Finance Member*).

Sir, In regard to the general observations on the budget made by the members, the Heads of Departments concerned have offered their remarks on points relating to their departments, and my task has been made much easier. I have only to refer to those points which, being more or less of a general nature, have been left untouched or passed over by them.

It would appear that most of the members of the House are of opinion that the administrative machinery is rather top-heavy, and the charges for the several establishments are capable of reduction. The member for Mulakunnattukavu has, in his masterly address, suggested that the whole field of public expenditure should be scrutinised by a Committee of officials and non-officials and the pay of all Heads of Departments standardised. This opinion has been echoed by other members also. The suggestion will receive due attention at the hands of the Government.

The member for Mulakunnattukavu has also adverted to the question of fresh taxation, viz., income-tax, since all items of revenue have ceased to be elastic, and many new schemes may have to be tackled in the future by the Government for the well-being of the people. As rightly observed by the member, levy of new taxes

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is always an unpopular and obnoxious measure. Government will, however, have to resort to it only when necessity arises, and only then.

Another matter which has come in for the criticism of the House is the inclusion of the provision for the Harbour Works under ordinary expenditure. Government are not unaware of the fact that the expenditure for Harbour Works could not rightly be met from the current revenues, and that loans are generally raised for such capital works, the benefits of which are reaped more by posterity. Since the expenditure in connection with the Harbour Works already incurred was met from current revenues, and in consideration of the fact that the contribution for the next year is, after all, not a very big amount, it was provided as an ordinary item of expenditure. This will now be debited to "Capital".

The provision of Rs. 25,000 made for the Mattancheri Electric Lighting has met with vehement opposition from every quarter of the House. Government desire to point out that this provision is not to be considered as an item of outright expenditure but only as a sort of investment, as the member for Public Works has explained.

Thus, excluding those two items which are to be capitalised, the total receipts for 1101 will be Rs. 70,60,300 and the total expenditure Rs. 68,92,300, thus resulting in a surplus of Rs. 1,68,000.

It has been pointed out by some of the members that the rates of Travelling Allowance now allowed to the officers should be reduced in conformity with the rates prevailing in British India. The rules governing Travelling Allowance in British India, as already pointed out, have been revised only quite recently, and the question of revising our rates with regard to Travancore and British rules will be duly considered by the Government.

The member for Trichur has remarked that the Municipal Council of Trichur has received scanty attention at the hands of the Government, and that the contribution provided for next year is too low. Government have been making liberal grants for works of sanitation to all Municipalities in the past, and do

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not consider that the present finances of the State would justify any contribution larger than what is already provided. The contributions for the next year have been fixed to cover the deficits of the several Municipal budgets, and the member may rest assured that no invidious distinction has been made between the Councils in the matter.

In conclusion, I beg to thank the non-official members of the House for their kind appreciation of the Explanatory Memorandum placed before them.

President.—The general discussion on the budget is now to be brought to a close. It is open to me, under Rule 48 of the Legislative Council Rules, to make any remarks I consider fit. In availing myself of the privilege thus given to me, I desire to congratulate the members of the House, both non-official and official, on the form and matter of the speeches they have delivered in connection with the general discussion. As more than one non-official member pointed out in the course of the discussion, this is our first venture in the field of taking part in the general discussion of the State budget, and it is by no means to be expected that our performance would be perfect. As I had to point out in my opening speech, we are yet to gain the requisite experience to reach the high level of efficiency in matters like this; and, with the gradual increase of experience, I have no doubt that we will be able to discharge our duties in an eminently satisfactory manner.

I sincerely welcome the candid criticisms of the non-official members in regard to the State expenditure in some of the departments, notably, Agriculture, Tramway, Public Works, Education, &c. Even at the time I was examining the departmental budgets and passing orders thereon, I was struck with the fact, as I told you on the opening day, that there was necessity for retrenchment in some directions. The matter does not end here. The financial side of some of the departments has to be carefully reviewed and a definite policy laid down in regard to the working of the departments, and I have already entertained the idea of carefully examining the various positions of some of the departments early next year. It is not time for me

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yet to lay down in what directions retrenchments could be effected, and the question as to the appointment of the Retrenchment Committee will be early receiving my serious consideration.

In view of what the official members of the Council have explained in respect of the criticisms on expenditure disclosed in the speeches of the non-official members, I have very little to say. My officers are not unaware of the fact that the disbursements are on the increase, but their anxiety has all along been that the efficiency of the departments should not in any way be impaired. I do not think that they are not actuated by the best of motives in proposing improvements in the working of their departments.

There has been a vehement protest I noticed on the part of the members of the House that the budget should have been balanced, and an endeavour should have been made to avoid the deficit. The Finance Member has now explained how this apparent deficit is not a real deficit at all. Strictly speaking, the contribution to Harbour Works should not have been debited to the current expenditure, nor should the proposed advance on account of Mattancheri Electric Lighting be treated as an ordinary item of disbursement. The former is a case of capital expenditure just like that on the Railway and the latter is a sort of loan, subject to certain conditions regarding payment of interest, &c. If this aspect of the matter is really understood by the members, the budget for 1101 must be regarded as a prosperity budget. Had the Finance Member made this point clear in his Explanatory Budget Statement, there would have been no reason for criticism on this account. The matter has now been fully explained, and the non-official members will, I trust, now rest satisfied that there is no room for anxiety about the budget for 1101.

In view of the remarks that have fallen from the members for Mulakunnattukavu and Cranganur regarding the Cranganur budget, I think it necessary to make a statement in order to make the position of the Government clear. It has all along been the practice that the Cranganur budget was issued separate from the State budget, and, in accordance wtih

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that practice, the preparation of the State budget was first undertaken, and there was hardly time to get ready the Cranganur budget. The question as to whether the Cranganur budget should form part of the State budget was not also free from doubt and was receiving serious consideration by Government. The opinion of the Law Officer was also obtained in the matter. The matter was further discussed at the conference of the Heads of Departments, day before yesterday. What created some doubt and difficulty was the existence of expressions 'Principality', 'financially autonomous', etc., as a characteristic of Cranganur, and these expressions have, as you know, found a place in the well-known work of the " Cochin State Manual " by Mr. C. Achyuta Menon. I fully realise the weight of the arguments advanced in support of the position that the Cranganur budget should be included in the State budget. In all essential respects, the Taluk of Cranganur is administered like other taluks of the State; the laws are the same; the collection and incidence of taxation are similar, and the administrative machinery is only a link in the chain of the Sate administration. In these circumstances, the matter would appear to be more or less clear that there is hardly any justification for excluding the Cranganur budget from the State budget. The question will, therefore , be once more considered in all its aspects, and the representations made by the members in the House carefully borne in mind, and an early decision arrived at in the matter. I think that the member for Cranganur may rest assured that all his arguments will be given due weight to, and that, as at present advised, there is every ground for the realisation of the hope entertained by him that the Cranganur budget will be treated as an integral part of the State budget from 1102 onwards.

I will say a word more before I conclude. In order that this Council may develop on proper lines and that it may promote the best interests of the people, it is, as pointed out in my opening speech, absolutely necessary that there should be co-operation, goodwill and sympathy between both the non-official and official members of the House. During the course of the general discussion, assurances were held out by more than one non-official member that

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they on their part were willing and ready to co-operate with the official members, and they expect that there will be reciprocity on the part of the official members. I may assure you that my officers who have been privileged to sit in this House will most heartily co-operate with you all and be ready to furnish you with any information respecting any matter of public concern you may stand in need of. Unless a close association and free exchange of views exist between the official and non-official members, it may not be possible to attain the full aims and objects of this most useful representative institution. I, for my part, shall always consider it a great pleasure to be of service to the non-official members, as representing the people of the State in the discharge of their sacred trust. (*Applause.*)

I forgot to say that the Superintendent of Excise has just got ready the statement showing the information with regard to palmyra alone for the information of the Hon'ble Member concerned.

Mr. V. B. VAIDYANATHA AYYAR (*Superintendent of Excise Revenue*).

I shall read out the answer to the supplementary question put by Dr. A. G. Menon to question 47 (a).

Tax for jaggery tapping of palmyras.

	Talappalli.			Chittur.		
	Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
1095	338	8	0	2,286	12	0
1096	387	8	0	2,569	8	0
1097	359	8	0	2,315	4	0
1098	333	4	0	1,146	4	0
1099	321	0	0	1,611	4	0

Mr C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

May I enquire, Sir, what our business is after lunch?

President.—Voting of Demands for Grants. I have put down Resolutions also. At any rate, yours can be taken up for discussion. I propose that we might give 3 to 4 for Voting of Demands for Grants, and 4 to 5 to your resolution. We can stop at the proper time.

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The House dispersed for lunch at 2 p. m. and met again at 3.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

Will all the resolutions sent up come up for discussion during this session?

President.—Well, some of the resolutions are not ready and, therefore, we may not be able to proceed with them.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

It is not within the power of the Council. If we are not ready with the resolutions, what are we to do for moving the resolutions? That is what it comes to.

President.—If the resolutions were not sent up sufficiently early and, consequently, if the respective departments are not able to collect the necessary information about them, it would be a waste of time if we proceed with them.

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VATAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam*).

There is a provision about the time, before which resolutions are to be sent up.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

15 clear days.

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VATAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam*).

And then, resolutions should be taken up, in the order of the ballot, for discussion in the House.

President.—Particular care has to be bestowed in getting facts ready.

Mr. MATHEW KOLADI VATAKKOT (*Kunnamkulam*).

May I draw the attention of the House to Section 71? The President has not got the power to alter the Rules or the Standing Orders. The President shall have the power to regulate the conduct of the business of the Council in all matters not covered by the Council laws. That is all.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON (*Mulakunnattukavu*).

10 days have already been allowed for the discussion of the budget in some form or other; and the President, making use of his discretion, has allowed 4 or 5 resolutions to be moved. We are not then entitled to ask for any more, unless the President so wills it. The

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question is this; if any particular resolution comes first in the order of precedence when put to the ballot, that resolution must be taken up.

President.—A certain order has been formed when the resolutions were put to the ballot—1, 2, 3, etc. If one is not ready to be taken up, the second is taken up. The point of the objection is that one should come up first, and the President is not justified in removing one and taking up the second. The second point is that all the admitted resolutions must come before the Council. We cannot say that, for want of time, we put it off.

Mr. A B. SALEM (*Jews*).

Exactly.

President—We shall look into it. Now, to the discussion of the motions on the budget—the voting of demands for grants. Till 4 o'clock, this item of work will engage our attention. After 4, we will take up Mr. Acyhuta Menon's resolution.

VOTING OF DEMANDS FOR GRANTS.

DEMAND I—LAND REVENUE.

Motion No 1.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

To omit the allotment for the "Fishery Patrol staff.

Mr. A. B. SALEM (*Jews*).

Sir,

I rise to move the omission of the allotment for the Fishery Patrol staff, for which exact figures are not given in the Preliminary Edition of the Budget. (Page 16—Establishment of the Fishery Patrol Staff.) My object in moving this motion is only to bring to your notice, Sir, that by this control of the poor fishermen of Cochin, by means of taxation upon the fishing stakes—for which the humble speaker has been mainly responsible in the past as Fishery Investigation Officer of the State, and for which he must, therefore, plead guilty and merit the curses of the Vala population of Cochin—, and by making them come under the

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